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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: TOMASZ ONDRUSZ
SERIAL NO.: 10/807,972
FILED: 03/24/2004
TITLE: COMPUTERIZED TRAINING
SYSTEM
ART UNIT: 3714
DOCKET NO. 006422.00006
CONF. NO. 4460
EXAMINING FRISBY, KESHA
ATTORNEY:

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §119(b), Applicant hereby transmits a certified copy of United Kingdom Patent Application No. 0306734.5.

Consideration and entry of the enclosed certified copy of priority document is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

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Concept House
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1. Your reference

AWP/P61901/000

2. Patent application number

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25MAY03 E794742-1 002882
P01/7700 0.00-0306734.5

0306734.5

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

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24 MAR 2003

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

8595811001

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

England

4. Title of the invention

A Computerised System for Devising a Training Scheme for a Sports Person

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

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Patents ADP number (if you know it)

42001

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country

Priority application number (if you know it)

Date of filing (day/month/year)

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8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request?

yes

(Answer 'Yes' if:

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Description 10 ✓
Claim(s) 4 ✓
Abstract - *JM*
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11

I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.


Signature

Date

24 March 2003

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

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A COMPUTERISED SYSTEM FOR DEVISING A
TRAINING SCHEME FOR A SPORTS PERSON

5 The present invention relates to a computerised system for devising a training scheme for a sports person.

10 It is a problem for an amateur sports person to select a training scheme appropriate to his/her sport. It is a fact that success in sports is highly related to individual body measurements. For instance, it can be seen that the anthropometrical differences between sprinters are far less than between sprinters and the general public. It is suggested that there is a 15 specific idealised anthropometric and physiological profile for the sport of sprinting. There will be different idealised physiological profiles for different sports. General training schemes are widely available, but it is not easy for the amateur sports 20 person to arrive at a training scheme suitable both for his/her sport and also his/her current physiological profile. The present invention aims to address this.

25 In a first aspect the present invention provides a computerised system for devising a training scheme for a sports person comprising:

30 first computer means for processing data, the first computer means being connected to a telecommunications network to send and receive data via the telecommunications network to and from a plurality of remotely located computer means;

wherein:

35 the first computer means has a database which stores for each of a plurality of sports a record of an idealised physiological profile;

each sports person using the system inputs via one of the plurality of remotely located computer means a selection of a sport and, in response to enquiries generated by the first computer means and 5 relayed to the sports person via the relevant remotely located computer means, information concerning his/her physiological profile; and

the first computer means compares the physiological profile input by each sports person with 10 the idealised physiological profile for the relevant sport and from this comparison formulates a training regime which is relayed to the sports person via the relevant remotely located computer means.

15 In a second aspect the present invention provides a method of devising a training scheme for a sports person comprising the steps of:

20 storing on a database on the first computer means an idealised physiological profile for each of a plurality of sports;

25 a sports person inputting to the first computer means a selection of a sport and, in response to enquiries generated by the first computer means, information concerning his/her physiological profile; and

30 a computer programme running on the first computer means comparing the physiological profile input by each sports person with the idealised physiological profile for the relevant sport and from the comparison formulating a training regime which is then relayed to the sports person.

35 In a third aspect the present invention provides a computerised system for devising a training scheme for a sports person comprising:

first computer means for processing data, which has a database which stores a record of an

5 preprogrammed physiological profile; wherein each sports person using the system inputs, in response to enquiries generated by the first computer means, information concerning his/her physiological profile;

10 each sports person using the system can vary the preprogrammed physiological profile by inputting a target or targets selected from options provided by the first computer means;

15 10 the first computer means compares the physiological profile input by each sports person with the varied physiological profile selected by the sports person and from this comparison formulates a training regime which is relayed to the sports person.

15

20 20 An example of a preferred embodiment of computerised system according to the present invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying figure.

25 In the accompanying figure there can be seen a server 10 with accompanying computer terminal 11. The server 10 is connected via a telecommunication network, e.g. the Internet, to remotely located personal computers 12, 13, and 14. In the example given the server 10 has a website which can be accessed via the Internet and users of the system use web-browser software on the personal computers 12, 13 30 and 14 to access the website hosted by the server 10.

35 On the server 10 there is maintained a database which for each of the plurality of sports maintains a record of an idealised physiological profile for the sport.

To obtain a meaningful physiological profile we

can use items such as:

- Maximum capacity to transport oxygen to tissues ($VO_{2\max}$),
- % of $VO_{2\max}$ that may be maintained without accumulation of lactate (OBLA),
- Maximum strength measured as the greatest weight that can be lifted just once (1-RM),
- Maximum power measured as the work output in a unit of time (POW)
- Core strength measured as the maximum number of sit-ups (COR1), push-ups (COR2) and crunchies (COR3) that can be performed without rest.
- Local muscular endurance (LME).

As an example, an elite marathon runner is likely to have relatively high $VO_{2\max}$, very high OBLA, low 1-RM, low POW, low COR1, low COR2, low COR3 and low LME when compared to a gymnast, or a figure skater.

Similarly, the marathon runner will have a different psychological, nutritional and injury profile from the gymnast or an overweight person due to the dissimilar demands of the respective sports and goals.

In the system, the stored idealised physiological profile for a sport is used to determine where the weakness in a particular athlete lies, and an ongoing training and assessment schedule is generated.

When a sports person first accesses the website hosted by the server 10 he/she is asked to supply the following information (hypothetical figures are given as illustrations):

35

Variable	Athlete
----------	---------

Gender	Male
Age	24
Height (m)	1.76
Resting Heart rate (bpm)	34
Weight (kg)	76
Sport	Long distance runner (10 km+)

5 The server 10 then retrieves from the database
10 the idealised physiological profile for the sport
selected by the sports person, in this case long
distance running. The retrieved measurements of the
idealised profile are then scaled having regard to the
body weight of the sports person, the gender and age.
15 The resulting figures for these hypothetical examples
are given in the table below.

Variable	Idealised Measurements
VO _{2max} (mlO ₂ /kg)	80
OBLA (% VO _{2max})	65
1-RM (kg)	385
Aerobic Power (W/kg)	28
Core strength	100
LME (mmol/l)	2.25

20 The sports person is prompted by a visual display
on the local personal computer to input measurements
of his/her VO_{2max}, OBLA, 1-RM, POW, COR1, COR2, COR3
25 and LME. The server 10 then calculates from the input
POW and weight information an aerobic power figure and
from the input COR1, COR2 and COR3 figures a core
strength figure. Then the server 10 makes a

comparison between the current physiological profile of the sports person and the idealised physiological profile for the selected sport (normalised by weight, age and gender) as illustrated by the table below.

5

Variable	Optimum value	Actual Value	% difference
VO _{2max} (ml/kg)	80	60	75
OBLA	65	60	92
Aerobic Power (W/kg)	26	21.7	83.5
1-RM squat	85kg	75	88
Core strength	100	95	95
LME	2.25	2.30	102.2

10

15 From the comparison the system can establish that the most important area to improve for this particular athlete is VO_{2max}. The system would now recommend a training regime to maximise the key component.

20

Optimising the VO_{2max} can be achieved by establishing a training regime that has a high volume and relatively low intensity. For running, the scheme follows that shown below (which would be relayed to the sports person as information displayed on the video display unit of his/her personal computer and printed locally by the sports person).

25

Factor (component)	Lower Value	Upper Value
Sessions/week (volume)	3	4
Distance % of competition (volume)	150	180
Intensity % of maximal heart reserve (intensity)	65	75

30

The volume of training is evaluated as shown:
5 $Volume_{run} = Sessions * Distance$, where
Sessions = number of sessions per week and distance =
distance run in each session.

In the hypothetical example, the athlete is
recommended to complete 3 training sessions with
distance = 150 % of competition distance (i.e. 15
10 km). There should be 2 days rest between training.

The intensity is evaluated as a percentage of
Maximum output from following the Karvonen formula:
15 $THR = HR_{rest} + INT * (HR_{max} - HR_{rest})$, where
THR = training heart rate
INT = Intensity percentage/100 (e.g. 80 % = 0.8)
 HR_{rest} = Resting heart rate and
HR_{max} = Maximal heart rate (this is either available
from a maximal test or can be estimated from 220- age
20 (years))
For our athlete, the $THR = 34 + 0.70 * ((220 - 24) - 34) = 163$ beats/minute

The actual training run can be done within a band
25 of 5 beats/minute either side of THR. (at this level
of athlete, one would expect that a heart rate monitor
is used).

30 In a variation of the system the sports person is
assessed for symptoms of overtraining, and research
has shown that psychological assessment tools such as
a Profile of Mood States (POMS) can be used to
indicate risk of overtraining.

35 Mood data for the sports person are obtained by
appropriate questions relayed via the local personal
computer. Categories are established as shown in the

table below. The base value represents the average value from all of the data obtained during the off-season. For details of the specific method for eliciting data from a profile of mood states questionnaire see Terry et al. (1999).

Mood dimension	Base Value	Last session value
Anger	4	6
Tension	5	8
Vigour	9	4
Depression	1	5
Fatigue	2	7
Total	21	30

15

The system compares current POMS scores to historical base values (obtained during an off-season). Two tests are used:

20 Test 1: is the current total POMS score more than 50% above reference values?

In our case, $21 + 50\% = 31.5$ indicating that it is not.

25 Test 2: Is the current measure of Fatigue higher than current measure for Vigour?

In our case this is true.

30 The overtraining risk is used to modify the proposed training schedule by reducing the recommended training volumes and training intensities by the percentage figures below (overtraining risk is 0% if the answers to both of the above questions are "no", 50% if one answer is "yes" and one is "no" and 100% if both answers are "yes").

Overtraining Risk %	Training Volume	Training Intensity
0	0	0
50	15	20
100	60	50

Whilst above the invention has been described as a distributed system with a central server 10 accessed via the Internet by personal computers 12, 13, 14 using web browser, the system could be provided by a single stand-alone computer into which data is directly input (i.e. not via a telecommunications network). Also the personal computers described above could be replaced by handheld computers (sometimes called personal digital assistants or palm top computers) or mobile telephones or interactive digital television units all of which have enough computing power to function as local computer means. The system could automatically update diaries held by such devices with training schedules, menu listings, etc.

The system could be adapted to be used by trainers and coaches in conjunction with sportsmen and women by allowing each trainer or coach to vary the idealised physiological profile in a way of his/her choosing so that the system then compares the sport person's actual physiological profile with the varied profile set by the coach or trainer.

Whilst above the invention has been discussed with reference to the system having an idealised profile stored for each sport, in another aspect the invention could provide a system to be used for general fitness requirements in which the user could set his/her own idealised profile and then the system

use this to compare with the user's current physiological profile in order to devise a training scheme. This would be done by establishing a default profile and then allowing the user to adjust it using
5 a menu of options such as 'loose 10% of body weight' or 'tone up muscles' or 'reduce the time for a marathon by 10 minutes' or even simple options such as 'sleep better'. These commands would be interpreted by the system as adjustments to the default physiological
10 profile and then the system would act as above and compare the user's actual physiological profile (determined as described above) with the modified default profile and use the differences to devise a training regime.

CLAIMS

1. A computerised system for devising a training scheme for a sports person comprising:

5 first computer means for processing data, which has a database which stores for each of a plurality of sports a record of an idealised physiological profile; wherein:

10 each sports person using the system inputs a selection of a sport and, in response to enquiries generated by the first computer means, information concerning his/her physiological profile; and

15 the first computer means compares the physiological profile input by each sports person with the idealised physiological profile for the relevant sport and from this comparison formulates a training regime which is relayed to the sports person.

2. A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein:

20 the first computer is connected via a telecommunications network to a plurality of remotely located computer means; and

25 each sports person uses one of the plurality of remotely located computer means to input data to the first computer means via the telecommunications network and to receive enquiries and the formulated training regime from the first computer means via the telecommunications network.

30 3. A system as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein:

35 the first computer means for each sports person scales the stored idealised physiological profile for the selected sport having regard to the weight of the sports person and compares the input physiological profile with the scaled identical physiological profile when formulating the training regime.

4. A system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein:

5 the first computer means for each sports person scales the stored idealised physiological profile for the selected sport having regard to the gender of the sports person and compares the input physiological profile with the scaled idealised physiological profile when formulating the training regime.

10

5. A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein:

15 the first computer means for each sports person scales the stored idealised physiological profile for the selected sport having regard to the age of the sports person and compares the input physiological profile with the scaled idealised physiological profile when formulating the training regime.

20

6. A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein:

25 each stored record of an idealised physiological profile comprises measurements taken from the set of maximum capacity to transport oxygen to tissues; percentage of maximum oxygen transport capacity that may be maintained without accumulation of lactate; greatest weight that can be lifted once; maximum power; maximum number of sit-ups performed without rest; maximum number of push-ups performed without rest; maximum number of crunchies performed without rest; and local muscle endurance; and

30

35 the first computer means generates enquiries relayed to the sports person which require data matching the measurements stored for the idealised physiological profile.

7. A system as claimed in any one of the

preceding claims wherein:

the training regime formulated by the first computer means comprises recommendations for training session frequency.

5

8. A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein:

the training regime formulated by the first computer means comprises recommendations for heart rate during training.

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9. A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein:

each sports person inputs periodically, in response to enquiries generated by the first computer means, data to establish a psychological profile for the sports person; and

15

the first computer means compares each input psychological profile for each sports person with a stored base psychological profile for the sports person and dependent on the comparison can modify the training regime formulated by the first computer means.

20

10. A method of devising a training scheme for a sports person comprising the steps of:

storing on a database on the first computer means an idealised physiological profile for each of a plurality of sports;

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a sports person inputting to the first computer means a selection of a sport and, in response to enquiries generated by the first computer means, information concerning his/her physiological profile; and

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a computer programme running on the first computer means comparing the physiological profile input by each sports person with the idealised

physiological profile for the relevant sport and from the comparison formulating a training regime which is then relayed to the sports person.

- 5 11. A computerised system for devising a training scheme for a sports person comprising:
 - first computer means for processing data, which has a database which stores a record of an preprogrammed physiological profile; wherein
 - 10 each sports person using the system inputs, in response to enquiries generated by the first computer means, information concerning his/her physiological profile;
 - 15 each sports person using the system can vary the preprogrammed physiological profile by inputting a target or targets selected from options provided by the first computer means;
 - 20 the first computer means compares the physiological profile input by each sports person with the varied physiological profile selected by the sports person and from this comparison formulates a training regime which is relayed to the sports person.

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